

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 3 – 5 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

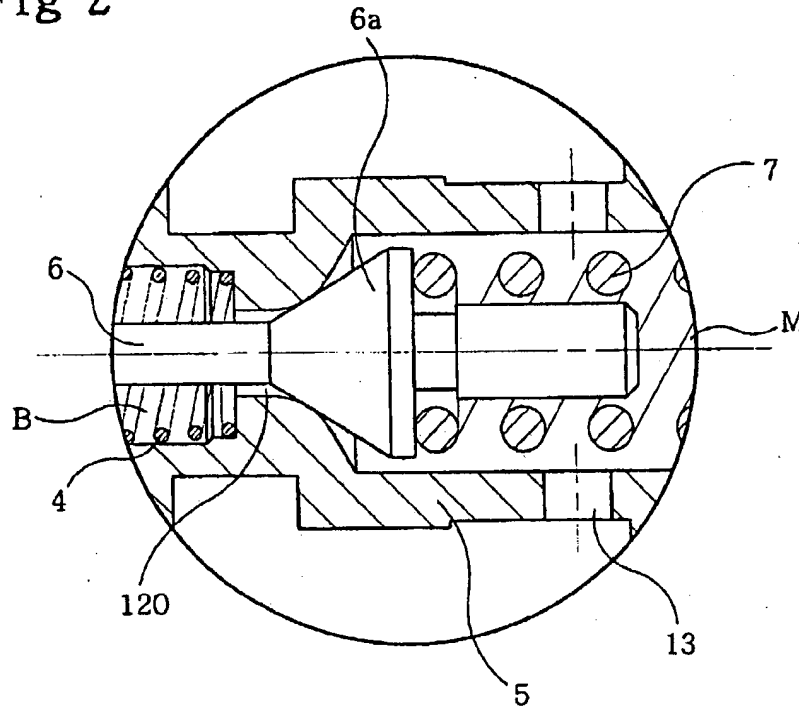
### **REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 1 and 3 – 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Asaoka (U.S. Pat. No. 4,860,788) in view of Grant (U.S. Pat. No. 5,533,548). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With regard to the claims, Applicant notes that claim 1 includes a discharging port which is opened and closed by the pilot poppet, that has an inner arcuately shaped surface having an inner diameter which is gradually increased in the downstream direction and that contacts a linear surface of the pilot poppet when the back pressure chamber is closed. The interface between the inner arcuately shaped surface and the linear surface prevents an instant pressure decrease of the fluid which is discharged.

Figure 2 is recreated below to illustrate the surface interface of the claim language.

Fig 2



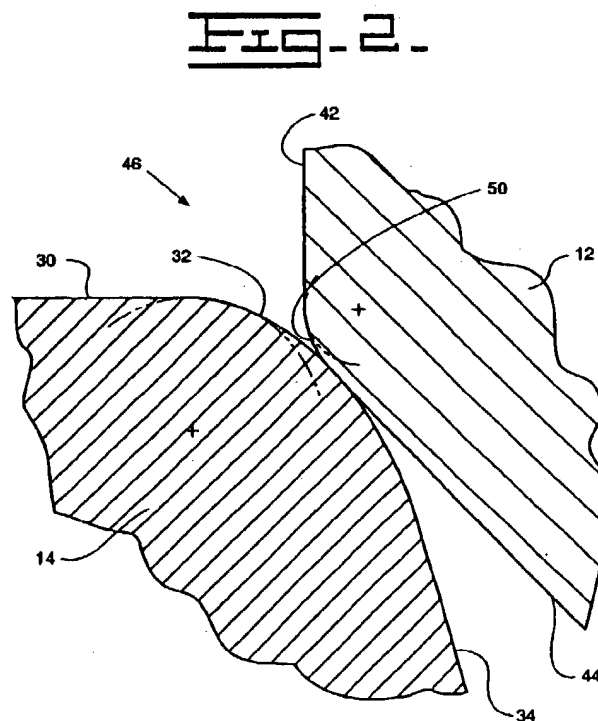
Asaoka fails to teach or suggest a discharging port having an inner arcuately shaped surface with an inner diameter which is gradually increased in the downstream direction and that contacts a linear surface of a pilot poppet when the back pressure chamber is closed. More specifically, Asaoka discloses a discharge port having a linear surface that contacts a linear surface of a pilot poppet.

Applicant further notes that Grant fails to cure the deficient disclosure of Asaoka. More specifically, Grant teaches a check valve, as opposed to a pressure control valve, including a main poppet which reciprocates in a poppet fixedly inserted in a front end of a sleeve for opening and closing a discharging flow path which connects a high pressure chamber and a low pressure chamber. Grant further teaches a pilot poppet

which is elastically supported by a first elastic member in an interior in the front end side of a seat engaged to a rear portion of the poppet and is forwardly and backwardly moved for opening and closing a discharging port.

Grant fails to teach or suggest a discharging port having an inner arcuately shaped surface with an inner diameter which is gradually increased in the downstream direction and that contacts a linear surface of the pilot poppet when the back pressure chamber is closed. Grant explicitly teaches an interface between first and second convex contoured surfaces 32 and 50, respectively (Col. 2, Lines 49 – 63).

Figure 2 of Grant has been recreated below to illustrate the interface between the first and second convex contoured surfaces 32 and 50.



As illustrated, the poppet 14 has an end portion 24 having a complex geometry. The end portion 24 includes an end surface 30, the first contoured convex surface 32

and an angled surface 34. The multi-geometrical end portion 24 is more complex and costly to manufacture than the linear surface claimed by Applicant's invention. Therefore, Applicant's invention prevents an instant pressure decrease of discharge fluid by implementing a less costly, simpler geometry.

Accordingly, Asaoka in view of Grant fails to teach or suggest a discharging port which is opened and closed by the pilot poppet, that has an inner arcuately shaped surface having an inner diameter which is gradually increased in the downstream direction and that contacts a linear surface of the pilot poppet when the back pressure chamber is closed. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 3 – 5 depend from claim 1, which defines over the prior art as discussed in detail above. Therefore, claims 3 – 5 also define over the prior art and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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